

Minutes of Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd Board meeting 17 November, 1997, 172 Skye Road, Frankston

PRESENT: A.R. Gourley (Chairman), Richard Greaves, David Griffiths, Lois Wishart and Greg Wishart

Minutes

It was noted that the minutes had been mailed to directors on 23 October 1997.

Resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting of 20 October 1997 and be signed by the Chairman.

M: Lois Wishart

S: David Griffiths CARRIED

Building Rural Futures Through Co-operation

The Secretary distributed copies of the following brochure for information:

Building Rural Futures through Co-operation

Co-operate In The Country

Project Launch

22 November 1997

Surge Plan Insurance

The Secretary distributed copies of a letter of 31 October 1997 to Wendy Heath, Office of the Regulator-General, Victoria, on United Energy's Surge Plan insurance. He reported on previous and subsequent action:

21 October 1997 telephone call from Wendy Heath to update

30 October 1997 telephone to and from Wendy Heath regarding update

30 October 1997 telephoned United Energy and asked for a copy of the Surge Plan brochure

31 October 1997 faxed to Wendy Heath copy of the United Energy Surge Plan brochure

1 November 1997 received from United Energy a copy of the Surge Plan brochure

7 November 1997 separate telephone discussions with Wendy Heath and Karen Chalmers, Office of the Regulator-General, Victoria

10 November 1997 discussion with Gavin Dufty, Victorian Council of Social Service, a member of the United Energy Customer Care Consultative Committee

11 November 1997 faxed to Gavin Dufty letters to ORG and United Energy regarding Surge Plan insurance and mailed a copy of the Surge Plan brochure

13 November 1997 discussion with Gavin Dufty who has received material and has had placed on the agenda for the Customer Care Consultative Committee meeting on 18 November 1997

Auditor

The Chairman reported that he had not contacted the auditor but would draft a letter to be forwarded.

United Energy Meeting

Greg Wishart reported that he had contacted United Energy on 22 October 1997 regarding the meeting and spoke with Wayne Debernardi's replacement, Kaylene Rowe. He said that she was familiar with the issues and Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd, confirmed interest in a meeting and wished to include the Group Manager, Corporate Affairs, Matt Pollard. He reported that he had last contacted Kaylene Rowe and left a message for Matt Pollard on 17 November 1997.

Greg reported that he had proposed meeting dates of 1, 3, 8 or 10 December 1997.

Co-operatives Act 1996

The Chairman reported that he had attended a Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd briefing on the Co-operatives Act 1996.

He noted that within two years co-operatives were required to name an activity by which members were active in a co-operative and this could include subscription to a newsletter. He said that if members did not participate in that activity they had to be removed as members.

Newsletter

It was noted that copies of SEC News had been mailed to directors on 29 October 1997.

It was agreed that Richard Greaves article should include after his name the comment that he is a director of Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd, that at the end of the written comments it should be noted "readers who want further information should contact the author or the Secretary, that 7pt was too small and that the diagram should fill a whole A4 to make it accessible and that the end of the second last sentence of the third paragraph the words should be "those needs" instead of "that means."

The Chairman said that he would pay for 50 white paper photocopies of the newsletter.

Summer Levy

The Secretary reported that the Regulator-General was considering whether or not to introduce a Summer Levy on electricity consumers. He tabled a letter that Co-operative Energy Ltd had sent to the Regulator-General, which argued, inter alia, "Electricity consumers should not be punished for the inefficiencies of the electricity industry."

ACOSS Conference

The Secretary reported that the ACOSS Conference was held on 6-7 November 1997 at the Melbourne Town Hall. He said that the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd had an information stall at the conference and that leaflets from Southern Energy Co-operative Ltd (13) and Co-operative Energy Ltd (15) had been distributed. He reported that Bill McPherson had manned the Federation stall for the duration of the conference

Frankston Council

The Secretary tabled the following:

29 October 1997 letter from Peter Farrell, General Manager, Planning and Economic Development, Frankston City

10 October 1997 letter from Robert K. Coulsen, Acting General Manager, Customer Services, Frankston City

Special Report Interruption to Electricity Supply in Frankston Environment, Foreshore & Public Safety 6 October 1997

Co-operative Energy Ltd

The Chairman reported that he had gone into the city to attend the AGM of Co-operative Energy Ltd but that the meeting had been cancelled.

Next meeting: 7.30 pm, 15 December 1997, 172 Skye Road, Frankston

MR Gormley
15/12/97